

## JOHNSON ATTACKS PUBLIC RECORD OF SHERIFF MERCER

Accuses Opponent of  
Defeating Bill to  
Abolish His Fees.

## SPEECH STIRS ITALIAN CLUB

Candidate Challenges Mercer's  
Discharge of His Duties and  
Accuses Him of Bad Faith  
in Opposing Fee System.  
Howe After Franklin  
Street Incomes.

Accusations of bad faith and of misrepresentation, with veiled allusions to neglect of official duty, were made last night by Stephen Johnson against his opponent, City Sheriff J. Herbert Mercer, at the rally of the Italian-American Political Club. The incident made the first exciting feature of the speaking campaign for city offices, which has heretofore gone along with little interest, as far as public meetings were concerned.

Sheriff Mercer, who had spoken in advance of Mr. Johnson, had no opportunity to reply last night, but it is assumed he will be heard from later. Mr. Johnson's remarks were brief, but they were exceedingly pointed.

**Challenges Record.**  
"Mr. Mercer has just said to you," he began, "that he has faithfully performed the duties of his office. If that statement were true, I would to-day be supporting him for re-election. Instead of opposing him."

"No doubt you have noticed that Mr. Mercer has been having himself quoted in the newspapers as the bitter enemy of the fee system and an advocate of a salary basis for public officials. Let me tell you that a bill was introduced in the last Legislature abolishing the fees of the office of City Sheriff of Richmond, and providing a salary. Deputy Sheriff Sam Shield appeared before the committee in behalf of the fee system, but Mr. Mercer killed it in the Finance Committee of the Senate."

With this statement, Mr. Johnson resumed his seat. Sheriff Mercer sat quietly in his. The applause seemed about evenly divided between the two candidates.

**Bill Was Not Reported.**  
It is recalled that there was such a bill as Mr. Johnson refers to, and that it was never reported from the Senate Finance Committee. In making up its estimates of incomes of city officials, on which to base its primary entrance fees for the present campaign, the finance committee of the City Democratic Committee estimated the fees of this office at only \$1,500.

Mr. Johnson did not develop what ever he might have had in mind concerning his opponent's failure to perform the duties of the office.

Fraternity Hall was packed with members of the Italian-American Political Club. President Louis Blasi was in the chair, and the program introduced the candidates. Peter Bonini is vice-president of the organization, and Louis Corrieri is the secretary.

**Italians Keep Out of Jail.**  
Very few Italians were in the City Jail, according to Sergeant John L. Satterfield. He asserted that all the supplies for that institution are bought in Richmond, except perhaps soap powder, for which the brand is selected by the matron, and on which Richmond people get the profit.

Wilbur J. Griggs, who is a candidate for Sergeant, said he favored good house and good salaries for the employees of the office. He said he would buy all supplies in the city, including soap powder. Further, he would not confine the patronage of the jail to three or four firms, but would distribute it around.

Sheriff Mercer simply said, as his opponent quoted, that he had done his duty and would keep on doing it.

A rule made by the City of Richmond gave T. Peter Howe his start in life, said that candidate for Commissioner of Revenue. Answering what Commissioner Tresnon has previously said about the complaint that the investigation of the year for taxation "I didn't see how they do it, and if elected I will try to find out. As to the deputies in the office, the Barksdale election law prohibits promises of rewards for candidates, but these men have every year. Therefore the recent investigation was no new thing, and he felt proud of the commendation given him in the report. He handles \$148,000,000 of values, comprising 70,000 entries, and must be familiar with 400 tax laws.

**BECOMES LAW SATURDAY**

**Bryan Will Proclaim Direct Election of Senators an Seventeenth Amendment.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Washington, May 28.—Direct election of United States Senators by the people will become an integral part of the law of the land at 11 o'clock next Saturday morning. Secretary of State Bryan will then proclaim it to be the duly ratified seventeenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Many members of Congress and prominent government officials are expected to be present at the ceremony, to be held in Mr. Bryan's chambers in the State Department.

The ceremony will be devoid of formality.

## FINAL EARTHLY BATTLE LOST BY GENERAL LOMAX

Famous Confederate Officer Dies  
at Hospital in Wash-  
ington.



MAJOR-GENERAL L. L. LOMAX.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Washington, May 28.—Major-General Lomax, famous Confederate officer, died here early this morning at Providence Hospital, after hovering between life and death for the past three days.

About ten days ago General Lomax was brought to Washington from Warrenton for treatment, having received a severe fall at that place. For two or three days Dr. James E. Mitchell, the attending physician, believed that his distinguished patient would rally to such an extent that a better examination of his fractured hip could be made than was had at Warrenton. To this end a determined effort was made to build up his strength for the ordeal through which he was to pass. But before this additional strength could be secured, the Grim Reaper had done his work, and all that loving hearts and skilful hands could do went for naught.

Last Sunday, although General Lomax was making a strong effort to assist his physicians in the fight for life, it was seen that he was gradually growing weaker, and at that time hope began to diminish. All through Monday, while Dr. Mitchell believed there was still a chance, General Lomax continued to grow weaker, and Monday night the members of his family were told that they might prepare for the worst. Throughout yesterday and the long hours of last night the battle for life was maintained, but it was seen that General Lomax was slowly fighting his final earthly battle. This morning just at daybreak, he passed quietly and silently into the Great Beyond.

**Funeral at Warrenton.**  
As soon as the news of General Lomax's death became current here today, friends began to express their sympathy. Beautiful floral tributes have been sent to the residence, and more will follow the remains to Warrenton, where the funeral will be held to-morrow afternoon.

Confederate veterans will gather at the residence here to-morrow morning and pay a final tribute of love to the gallant Confederate chieftain whom they knew and loved in life. At Warrenton there will also be assembled members of Confederate organizations of that section, and telegrams received here by members of the family to-day also indicate that there may be many weavers of the gray from other parts of the State.

The honorary pallbearers for the funeral will be General Richard Loder, of New York; General Holmes Conrad, of Winchester; General Marcus Wright, Major Robert Hunter, Lee Robinson and Colonel Robert Coward, of Washington; Epps Hunter and Judge L. L. Smith, Messrs. Groom and Dr. Robert Hicks, of Warrenton, and Colonel Robert Chew, of Charleston, W. Va.

Eight active pallbearers chosen from the oldest friends of the general's family are Robert E. Lee, grandson of the Confederate general; Dr. Edgar Snowden, Henry Robinson, George B. Stone and others.

(Continued on Ninth Page.)

**SKELTONS FOUND  
IN RUINS OF HOME**  
Portions of Gun Discovered, and  
Seventeen-Year-Old Boy  
Is Missing.

Atlanta, Ga., May 28.—Mystery surrounds the finding by neighbors early to-day of two charred skeletons in the smoldering ashes of a house which had stood on the McDonough Road, two miles from the Federal prison, and which had been occupied by Mrs. Sarah C. Stevens, her son, seventeen years old, and her adopted daughter, left Atlanta Tuesday, it is reported, but no one has been found who saw the house burn during the night. Mr. Stevens, a prominent citizen of Chattanooga, attended the reunion of the United Confederate Veterans.

Near the two charred skeletons were found the metal portions of a shotgun, including the barrel and lock. A local dentist declared one of the skeletons was that of Mrs. Stevens, basing his opinion upon the false teeth which still clung to the roof of the mouth. The other skeleton is believed by the authorities to be that of the daughter, as the bodies were found together, and it is said Mrs. Stevens and her daughter were accustomed to sleep in the same room.

The authorities of Dekalb County, in which the house was located, are investigating the tragedy. The girl was taken in infancy from an orphanage. Police are searching for the son, who has disappeared.

After a careful examination of the circumstances surrounding the death of Mrs. Sarah Stevens and her adopted daughter, Nellie, the coroner's jury found that the cause of death was fire.

(Continued on Second Page.)

## URGENT DEMANDS OF OTHER NATIONS PROVE EFFECTIVE

Congress Is Inclined to  
Yield to Their In-  
sistence.

## WILSON AGREES TO ALTERATIONS

Clauses in Tariff Bill Which  
Have Aroused Protests From  
Foreign Countries Will Be  
Eliminated—No Desire to  
Insist Upon Embarrass-  
ing Legislation.

Washington, May 28.—Congress in all probability will yield to the protests of foreign nations against the provisions in the Underwood tariff bill granting a 5 per cent tariff discount on imports in American-owned or controlled vessels.

That the provision can be eliminated from the bill without harm and that Congress has no desire to insist upon legislation that will be embarrassing to foreign nations or interfere with treaty obligations was admitted to-day by administration leaders who are in charge of the bill. President Wilson is said to have intimated that he would not object to having the clause eliminated.

This action, it was reported, would be recommended by the Senate Finance Subcommittee, headed by Senator John Sharp Williams, which is considering the administrative features of the bill. The subcommittee also will seek to modify another clause which compels foreign merchants to submit their books to an American agent in case of disputed valuations and provides as a penalty for failure to do so that the goods be excluded from entry.

Germany, France and England have made strong protests against this clause and assurances were given to-day that an effort will be made to eliminate the objectionable features.

**Important Conferences.**  
Two important conferences were held to-day on the foreign protests. One was between Senator Simmons chairman of the Finance Committee and Secretary Bryan and John Bassett Moore, counselor of the State Department. The other conferees were Senators Williams and Shively, of the Finance Committee, and Representative Peters, of Massachusetts, who had charge of the administrative sections of the bill for the House Ways and Means Committee.

It was reported that the State Department held it to be unquestionable that the 5 per cent devaluative clause violated the foreign treaties. During the conference, protests against the clause from eight nations were made.

It was generally expected to-night that the House would yield to the Senate amendment striking out the clause.

As the members of the Senate subcommittee got down to bedrock to-day and began consideration of proposed changes in the bill, they found a long job ahead of them. Spurred on to finish the schedule within a week, if possible, they agreed to hold day and night executive sessions, but some of them feared that even in this way they would be unable, however, to be ready for the full committee before ten days.

Several Democratic leaders were emphatic in declaring that whatever was done by the committee, there would be no changes in raw wool or sugar. As far as the committee is concerned, it seems to be determined. The fight to change them will be made in the caucus, but the present prospect is that the administration will not yield to the woolen manufacturers who have increased sales since the tariff was lowered.

In response to a request from Senator Williams, Lincoln B. Farnsworth, of the Pennsylvania Mutual Life Insurance, to-day presented statistics to establish the contention that his company is entirely mutual, and that the funds are exclusively devoted to the interest of the membership. Itemized statements of the transaction were submitted.

(Continued on Ninth Page.)

**REMAINS OF HERO  
ARE DISINTERRED**  
They Are Being Brought Back  
for Burial in Virginia  
Soil.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Savannah, Ga., May 28.—To-night the body of "Light Horse Harry" Lee is speeding northward over the Seaboard Air Line Railway bound for Lexington, Va., where, Friday, it will be interred on the native soil of the Revolutionary hero, who for 100 years has been resting beneath Georgia soil on Cumberland Island. The body is being accompanied to Lexington by a Virginia legislative committee composed of Hugh A. White, John O. Daniels and John M. Hart.

The delegation arrived at Dunegness, Cumberland Island, this morning and was entertained by the owners of the island. This afternoon the grave was opened and the remains of General Lee disinterred and placed in a handsome new casket. The casket was conveyed from Cumberland Island to Fernandina aboard a private yacht and at Fernandina the journey to Virginia began by train.

General Lee died on the island nearly a century ago while visiting General Nathaniel Green. He was on his way home from the West Indies. The body was buried at Dunegness and all attempts by Virginia to secure possession of the remains have since proven futile owing to bitter opposition on the part of the Georgia Daughters of the Revolution principally.

The Virginia Legislature appropriated funds for bringing the body back to Virginia soil and the Old Dominion finally won its fight, there being no law to prevent the removal.

(Continued on Second Page.)

## GENERAL YOUNG RE-ELECTED AMID STORM OF CHEERS

Again Chosen to Head  
United Confederate  
Veterans.

## NEXT REUNION AT JACKSONVILLE

Gray-Clad Hosts Will March To-  
day in Annual Review—At  
Ball in Their Honor, Many  
Dance Virginia Reel and  
Turkey Trot Till  
Morning.

Chattanooga, Tenn., May 28.—Jacksonville, Fla., late to-day was awarded the honor of entertaining the twenty-fourth annual reunion of Confederate veterans, and Commander-in-Chief General Bennett H. Young, of Louisville, Ky., with his three departmental commanders, were re-elected at the last important business session of veterans during the present reunion here.

The next reunion went to Jacksonville after more than an hour's deliberation, in which the hospitality and fame of that city, Nashville, Tenn., Houston, Tex., and Tulsa, Okla., had been proclaimed by eloquent orators. When a vote was taken, Jacksonville received 1,525 votes; Nashville, the nearest opponent, receiving 405. The selection of the Florida city then was made unanimously.

Departmental officers who again will serve under the command of General Young are Lieutenant-General Theodore S. Garnett, of Norfolk, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia; Lieutenant-General George P. Harrison, of Opelika, Ala., commander of the Army of Tennessee; and Lieutenant-General K. M. Van Zandt, of Fort Worth, Tex., commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department.

**Monuments Dedicated.**  
Other features of the second day reunion program were the impressive ceremonies attended and the dedication of handsome monuments at Chickamauga Park by delegations from Florida and Alabama and the parade of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

A joint memorial service in honor of the Confederate dead also was held in the auditorium to-day, at which representatives from the veterans and all other organizations attending the reunion took part.

The election of officers by the veterans this afternoon was preceded by a lively discussion, which followed the report of the committee on credentials. This committee reported that General Behan had been elected chairman of the veterans' association, and that the committee recommended the recommendation of the committee as malitious. After relating the battles in which he had participated during the War between the States, he called upon the veterans to defeat the committee recommendations. For a time the meeting was in a turmoil. Explanations were called for, and finally General Behan, who was called on by one of the veterans, explained his position, while he still retained membership in the fifteen Louisiana camps which succeeded from the veterans' organization four years ago.

A motion was made to amend the credentials committee report so as to exclude the portion of it referring to General Behan's statement that he was called on the motion, the presiding officer could not determine whether the eyes or the nose were the more numerous. An official vote by State divisions then was called for, and the motion was adopted.

The report of the resolutions committee, submitted this afternoon, was adopted. Among the resolutions was one that the veterans' association be the custodian of the signing of the treaty of Ghent. The resolution was adopted.

The opinion is taken to mean that there is nothing in the charter to empower the Administrative Board to oblige the city for the payment of a fund not appropriated. In cases where the number of employees is not fixed, and where a general appropriation in lump sum has been made for payroll, the board has the right to fix any rate of pay that it chooses, if it so limits the number of men employed as not to exceed the total available appropriation.

**Text to Opinion.**  
The opinion of the City Attorney follows in full:

May 27, 1913.  
Administrative Board,  
Richmond, Va.

Gentlemen:—Replying to your request to construe section 26 of an act of the General Assembly approved February 9, 1912, creating the Administrative Board, etc., with reference to the power of the board to increase the salaries of the employees of the several departments, I beg to say that the full text of the section referred to is as follows:

"26. The City Council shall fix the pay of all officers, but when such pay has been fixed the same shall not be increased by the City Council until the property of such increase has been referred to the Administrative Board, considered by them and reported upon to the Council; provided, however, that the Council may delegate to the Administrative Board the power to fix the pay of all officers (whom they are now or may hereafter be authorized to appoint), and provided further that the pay of all employees of the city shall be fixed by the Administrative Board, and may, from time to time, be increased or diminished by said board."

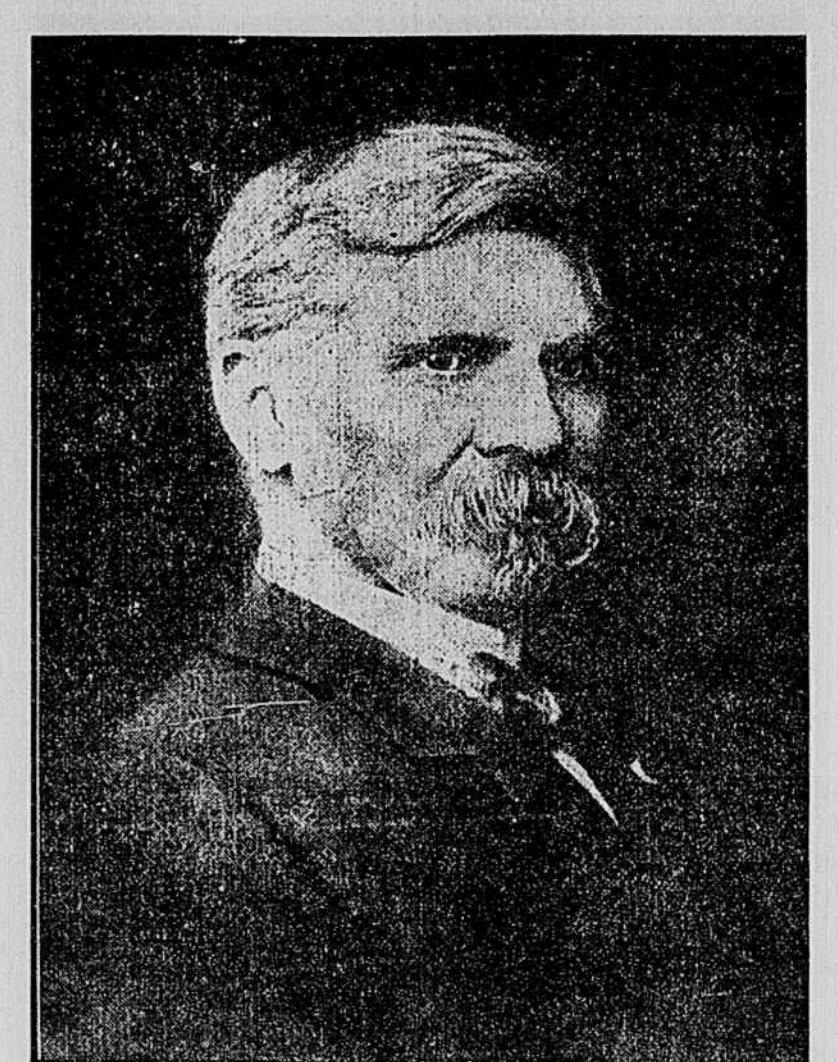
It appears, however, that your inquiry has reference only to the power of the board, to increase the pay of the employees of the several departments, and therefore this reply, as far as is practicable, shall refer only to that matter.

The most cursory reading of the section referred to shows that the statute distinguishes between "officers" and "employees," and hence in construing the provision it is important that this distinction and its nature should be borne in mind.

Municipal officers are defined to be persons engaged for a definite term, and the matter was presented to the grand jury.

(Continued on Third Page.)

## Again Heads Confederate Veterans



GENERAL BENNETT H. YOUNG.

## BOARD'S POWERS LIMITED BY LAW TO CONFER DEGREE ON DR. C. W. STILES

Cannot Increase Pay Save Where  
City Council Provides  
the Money.

## WOULD COST \$60,000 A YEAR DISCUSS CONSOLIDATION

Applications From Board Em-  
ployes Now Pending Might  
Overdraw Treasury.

Clearly defining and greatly limiting its powers, a written opinion was delivered to the Administrative Board by City Attorney H. R. Pollard yesterday to the effect that the board has not the power to increase the pay of city employees beyond the amounts appropriated by the City Council. In construing the salary clause of the charter amendments, Mr. Pollard holds that the Administrative Board cannot fix the pay of employees in departments not under its control; and that the increase or decrease in the pay of employees in departments under control of the board must be made by the City Council.

In his opinion Mr. Pollard calls attention to the fact that the board has no power to increase the pay of city employees beyond the amounts appropriated by the City Council. In construing the salary clause of the charter amendments, Mr. Pollard holds that the Administrative Board cannot fix the pay of employees in departments not under its control; and that the increase or decrease in the pay of employees in departments under control of the board must be made by the City Council.

**Might Embarrass City Treasury.**  
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(Continued on Third Page.)

## FRIENDS STAUNCH IN THEIR DEFENSE OF HIS SOBRIETY

Emphatic in Assertions  
That Roosevelt Is Not  
Drunkard.

## REALLY MODEL IN ABSTEMIOUSNESS

Intimates of Many Years Tell of  
Ex-President's Correct  
Personal Habits—Admit He  
Takes Drink, but Usually  
Out of Courtesy to  
Host.

Marquette, Mich., May 28.—Men who have been associated with Theodore Roosevelt in public and private life, who met him on the Nile when he returned from his African hunting trip, and newspaper men who accompanied him on his various political campaigns, testified to-day in Detroit that the former President was a model in abstinence. It would have been impossible, the witnesses said, for Colonel Roosevelt ever to have been under the influence of liquor without the fact becoming known to his associates. It would have been equally impossible, they testified, for him to have drunk liquor with any regularity without the smell of it on his breath being apparent.

Throughout the hearing of the case, in which the former President is suing for \$10,000 damages because of the publication last October of an editorial charging him with getting drunk, Colonel Roosevelt's friends will endeavor to satisfy the testimony of former members of his Cabinet and of newspaper men. Frequently he smiled as some incident of his campaigns or hunting trip was related from the witness stand.

**He Chuckles Audibly.**  
Once Colonel Roosevelt gave vent to an audible chuckle. This was when he heard that Bacon, former Secretary of State, in telling his story of the dinner with members of the Roosevelt family, said the Colonel was the father of five children, although he has six. Colonel Roosevelt's sense of humor was awakened by the one thing, and after Mr. Bacon's memory, and after Mr. Roosevelt's chuckle, he vainly tried to smother in his hand caused a ripple of laughter about the courtroom.

For almost six hours of testimony-taking by attorneys, Colonel Roosevelt kept his chair just back of his counsel. The day's proceedings were marked by an important ruling by Judge Richard B. Bacon, Jr., in the introduction of evidence by the defense, which will have the effect of excluding certain kinds of hearsay testimony. This ruling came after a prolonged argument, during which the attorneys for the defense urged the exclusion of a certain kind of testimony, which they said might be introduced by the defense through depositions.

The effect of the ruling was that Colonel Roosevelt's general reputation is an issue on the case, and testimony heard upon his reputation may be introduced, but that rumors about his reputation coming from persons not fitted by experience to judge shall not be admitted. In the future progress of the hearing, it was explained in court, that the defense will endeavor to show that the former President, or who has been associated with him with any degree of constancy, may testify as to his reputation. But a man who heard the Colonel deliver a political speech, or saw him for one of the moments in a crowd, may not testify as to his general reputation, although he may tell how the Colonel acted or appeared on that particular time.

**Pleases No Attorney.**  
James H. Pound and William H. Van Benschoten, Colonel Roosevelt's attorneys, said the ruling was agreeable to them. Horace Andrews, one of Mr. Newell's counsel, described the present civil action as a "semicriminal case" and pleaded for an unrestricted ruling on the admission of evidence by the defense.

Almost every phase of Colonel Roosevelt's public life was touched upon by to-day's witnesses. All of them spoke with emphasis when they expressed personal knowledge in denying, as the editorial charges, that the Colonel gets drunk and that not infrequently and "all his intimate friends know it."

It was asserted that whenever Colonel Roosevelt drank champagne or wine or a mint julep, it was out of courtesy to his host at some public function, but that he only took a mouthful from a wine glass, and that on one occasion he ordered a railroad company not to place in his special car the supply of liquors usually placed in such cars.

The witnesses were Mr. Bacon, Truman H. Newberry, former Secretary of the Navy; John Callan O'Loughlin, a Washington newspaper man; Lucius F. Curtis, a New York newspaper man, and Gilson Gardner, a newspaper man, who testified the day before, was recalled.

Repeatedly and in various phrases the same question was put to each witness.

"Have you ever known Mr. Roosevelt to be under the influence of liquor?" or "Have you ever seen him drink?" or "Have you ever seen him take a drink?" and the answer invariably was negative.

Just as often question were put as to whether the Colonel was in the habit of drinking intoxicants regularly in any quantities and the answer again was negative.

Mr. O'Loughlin, who said he had known Colonel Roosevelt for many years, put a degree of positiveness to his answers by saying:

"I not only never knew of the Colonel being under the influence of liquor, but I never saw him take a drink, but my answer was negative."

It was a question put to Mr. O'Loughlin that brought about the argument of attorneys over the admission of evidence by the defense.

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